BDE PROCEDURE MEMORANDUM

NUMBER: 55-07

SUBJECT: Accumulating Wetland Impacts

DATE: February 23, 2007

This memorandum revises the IDOT Wetlands Action Plan. The Wetlands Action Plan will be incorporated into the BDE Manual at a later date.

Background

This procedure memorandum re-aligns the IDOT Wetlands Action Plan with the Corps of Engineers Nationwide Permit Number 14.

The IDOT Wetlands Action Plan was approved April 15, 1998 and was prepared in accordance with the Illinois Interagency Wetland Policy Act of 1989 and associated Administrative Rules (17 III. Admin. Code 1090). The plan establishes a formal procedural framework through which actions undertaken or funded by IDOT that may adversely affect wetlands will comply with the Wetlands Act and Rules. A provision in the Action Plan gives the IDOT the option to accumulate wetland impacts of less than 0.3 acre. This provision was in line with the Corps of Engineers Nationwide Permit Number 14 which at the time permitted wetland impacts of less than 0.3 acre without compensation. After approval of the IDOT Wetlands Action Plan, the Corps of Engineers modified Nationwide Permit Number 14 and now only wetland impacts of less than 0.1 acre are permitted without compensation.

Applicability

The procedures in this memorandum are applicable to all state highway projects.

Procedures

Wetland impacts of less than 0.1 acre may be accumulated. Wetland impacts of 0.1 acre or more must be compensated prior to or concurrent with the project causing the wetland impacts. For projects constructed under multiple contracts, the first contract should provide for all of the required wetland compensation.

Interim Engineer of Design and Environment L- & Wan